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Pair Accused of Posing As Animal Control Officers and Stealing Dog Face Grand Theft, Extortion Charges

Two women accused of impersonating officers from the Los Angeles Police Department's Animal Cruelty Task Force and stealing a poodle have been charged with burglary and other charges, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jenny Smiley (dob 9/27/63) and Shannah Tenner (dob 5/27/62) have been charged with one count each of felony first-degree burglary and extortion, and one misdemeanor count each of grand theft of a dog and unlawful use of a badge.

Smiley and Tenner are scheduled to be arraigned today in Department 30 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

Prosecutors said the pair wore green shirts with badges and went to the home of the pet owner in Echo Park on April 14. The two women allegedly told the man that he would be deported if he didn't turn over the dog.

The women are accused of taking the dog. The man called the task force and learned the unit wasn't involved in having his pet taken away.

An investigation ensued and the dog was later recovered.

If convicted as charged, both women face a possible maximum sentence of eight years in state prison.

Case BA436554 is being investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.